

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

MT DROUGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS

July 14, 2005



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Lima Reservoir

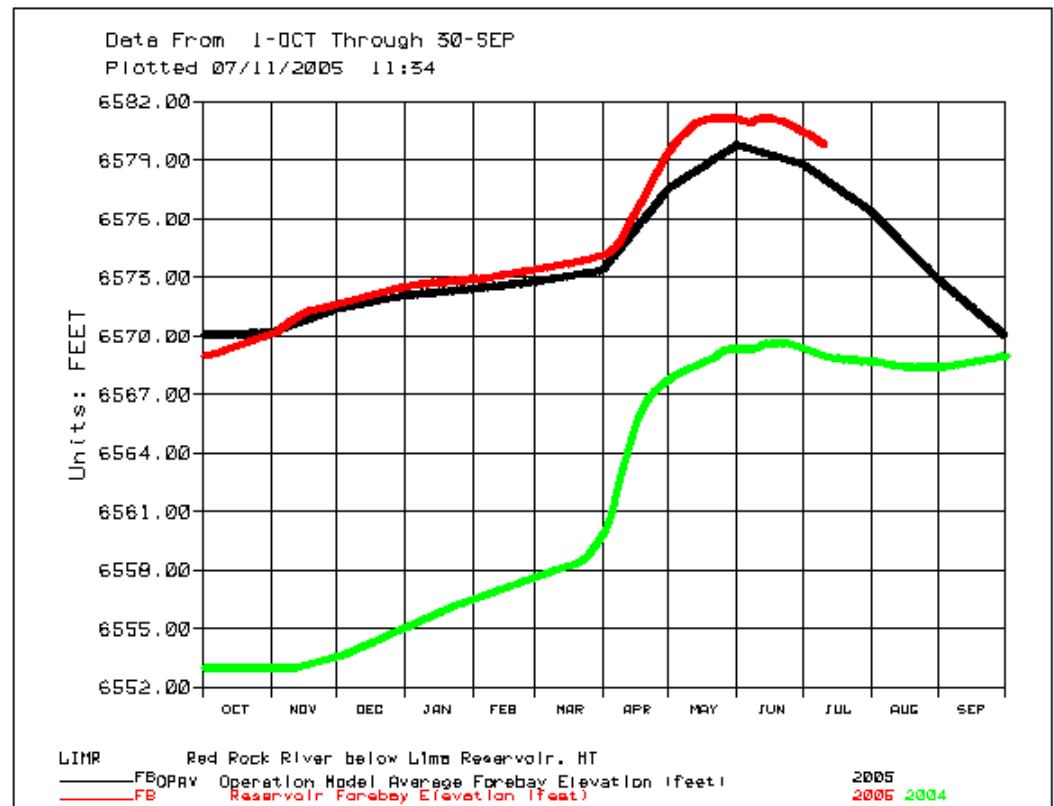
Mountain snowmelt is over

June inflow was 116% of average

Storage is at 67,006 af (114% of average) & about 2.9 feet below full pool

Releases are being maintained at 380 cfs to meet irrigation demands

Return flows are picking up, allowing inflows to Clark Canyon to remain over 240 cfs



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Clark Canyon Reservoir

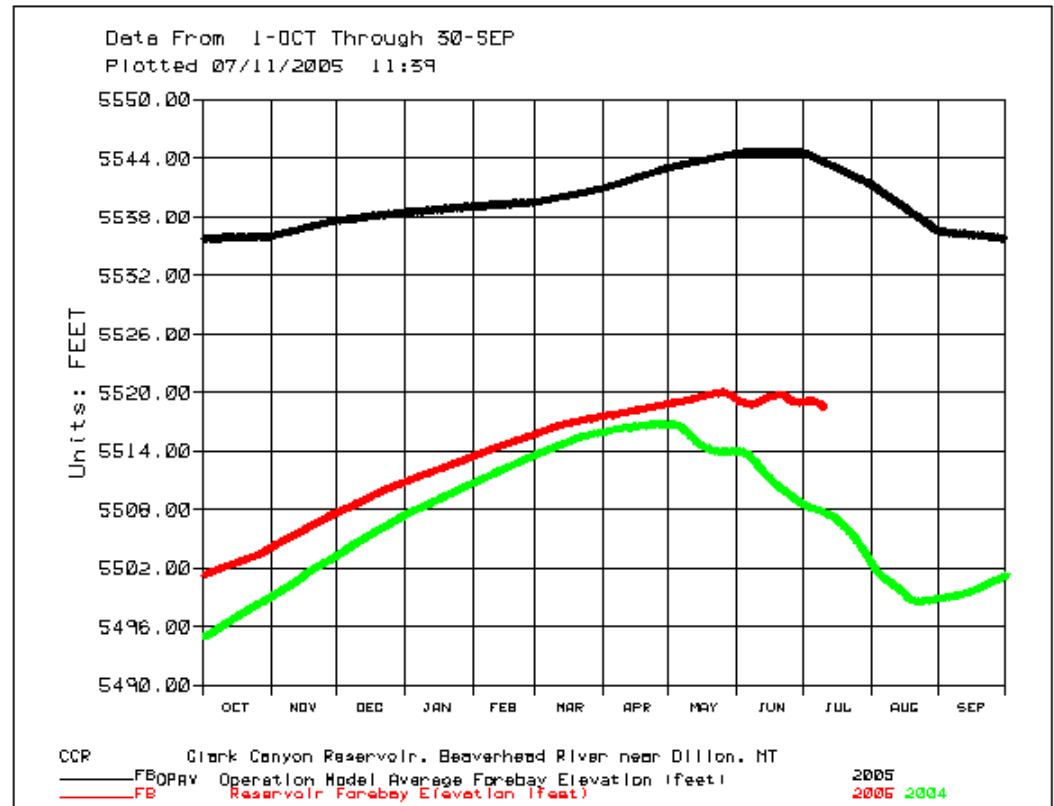
Mountain snowmelt is over

June inflow was 36% of average

Storage is at 62,023 af (38% of average)

Releases are being maintained at 460 cfs to meet irrigation demands

Improved runoff this spring has allowed EBID & CCWSC to work out an arrangement to deliver up to 10,000 acre-feet more water to EBID



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Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

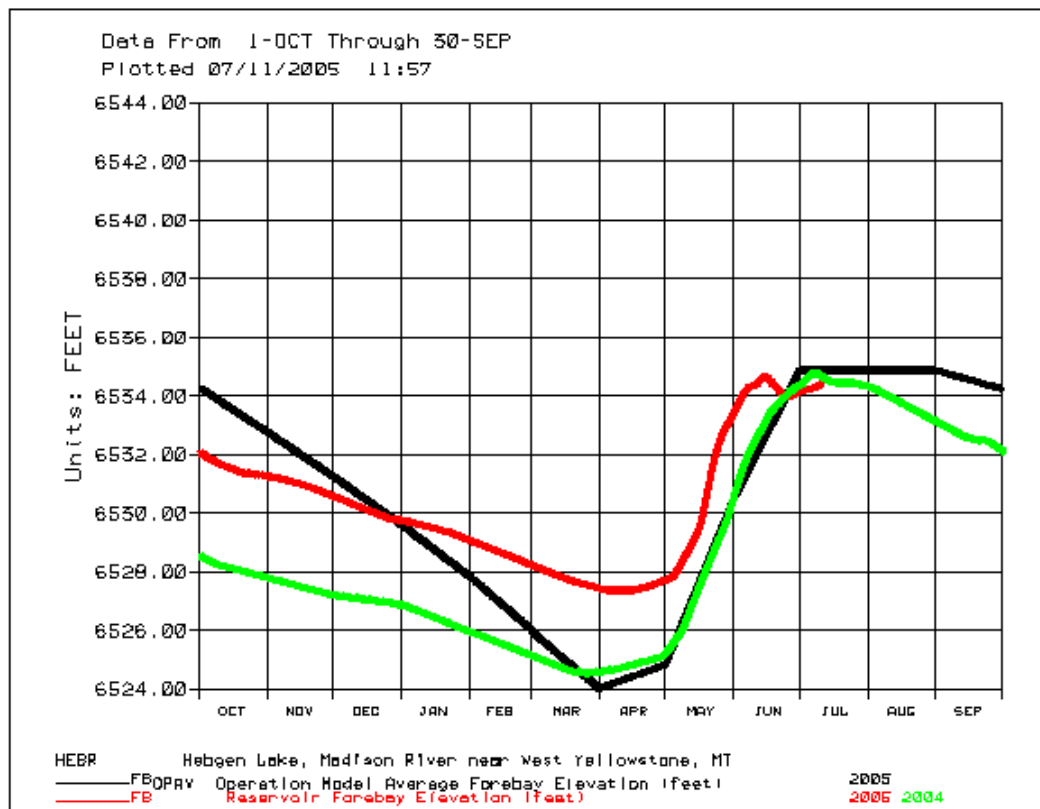
Mountain snowmelt is over

June inflow was 79% of average

Storage is at 98% of average

Currently releasing 760 cfs to
Madison River

Depending on water
temperatures in the river and
pulse flow operations, plans may
be expected to follow last years
operations



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Canyon Ferry Reservoir

Mountain snowmelt is over

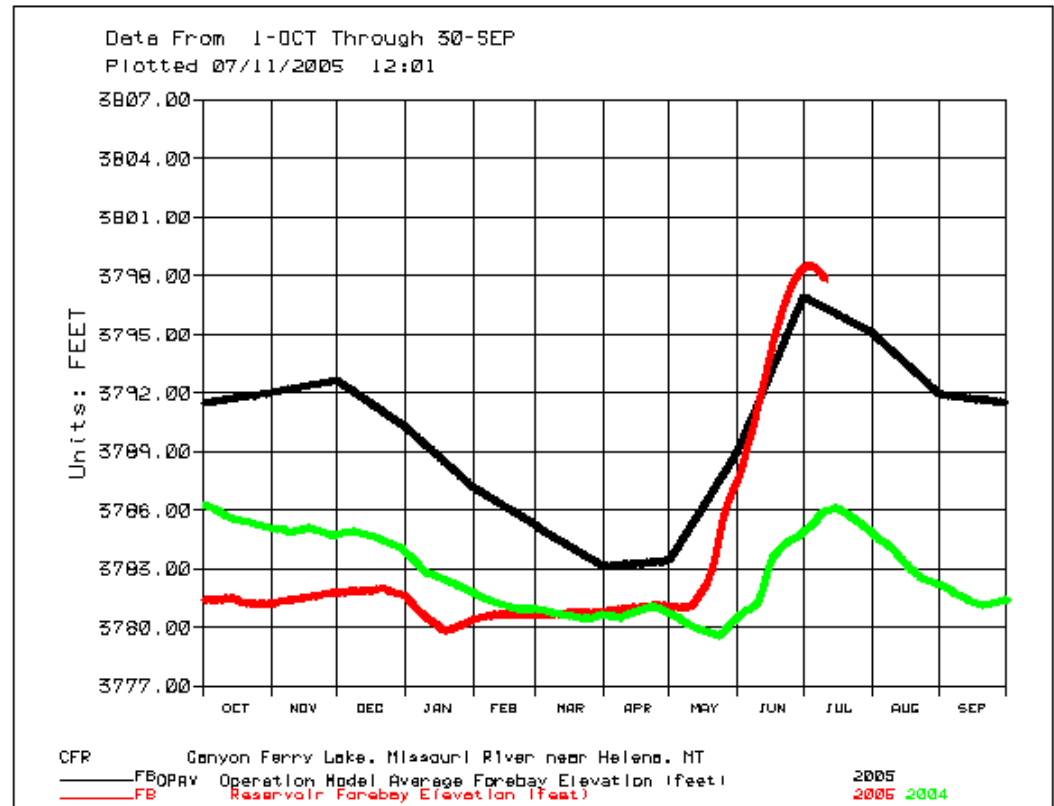
June inflow was 79% of average

Storage is at 103% of average

Releases to the Missouri River are being gradually decreased to the desired minimum flow of 4,100 cfs below Holter Dam

All storage in the exclusive flood pool is expected to be evacuated by early next week

Hope to maintain river flows at 4,100 for the remainder of the year



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Gibson Reservoir

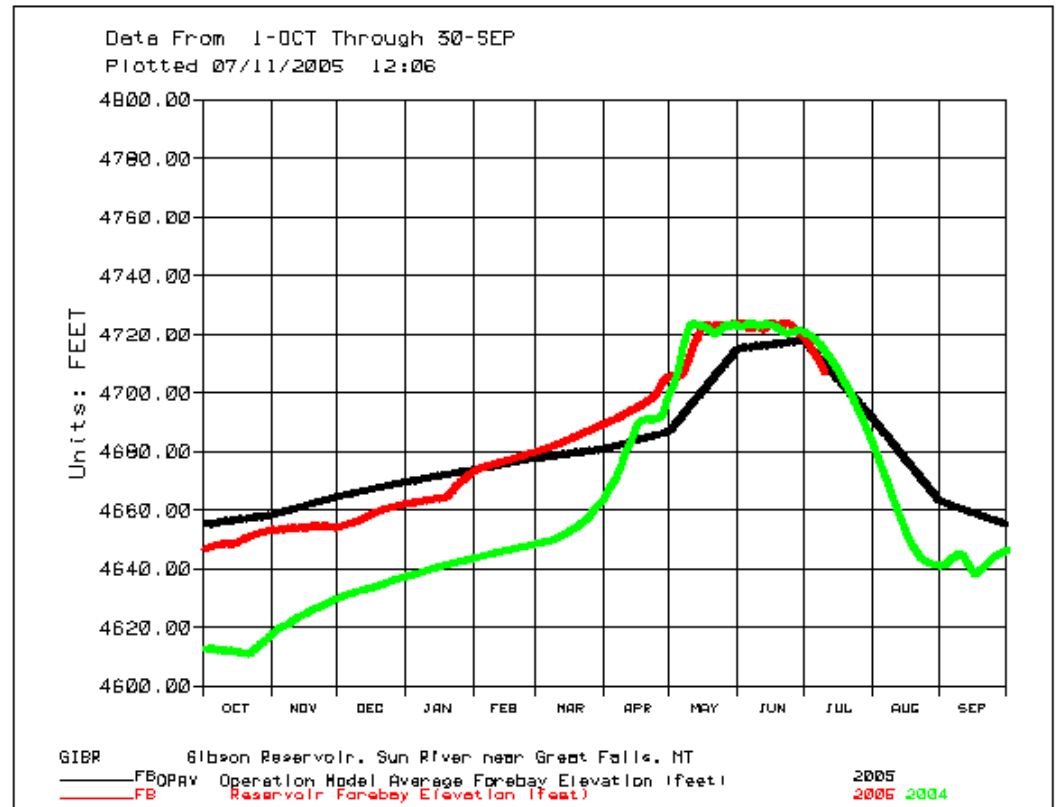
Mountain snowmelt runoff is over

June inflow was 54% of average

Storage is at 96% of average

Releasing 155 cfs to Sun River
and 1,345 cfs to the canal

Gibson Reservoir has filled and
will continue to decline through
the remainder of the year as
irrigation demands are met; if
drought conditions return, water
users may experience minor
water shortages in 2005



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Lake Elwell (Tiber Reservoir)

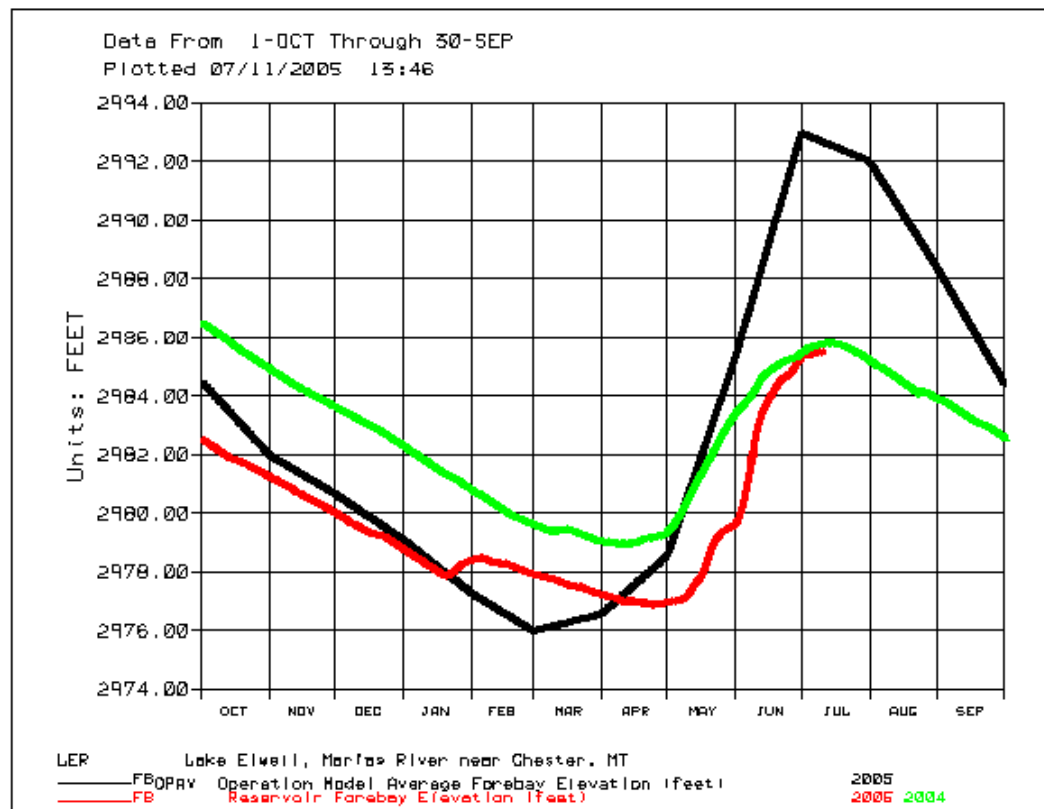
Mountain snowmelt is over

June inflow was 59% of average

Storage is 87% of average and may have peaked at 7.5 feet below the top of the joint-use pool

Releases have currently been reduced to 400 cfs to conserve storage for later use

May hold fall & winter releases at 400 cfs



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Lake Sherburne

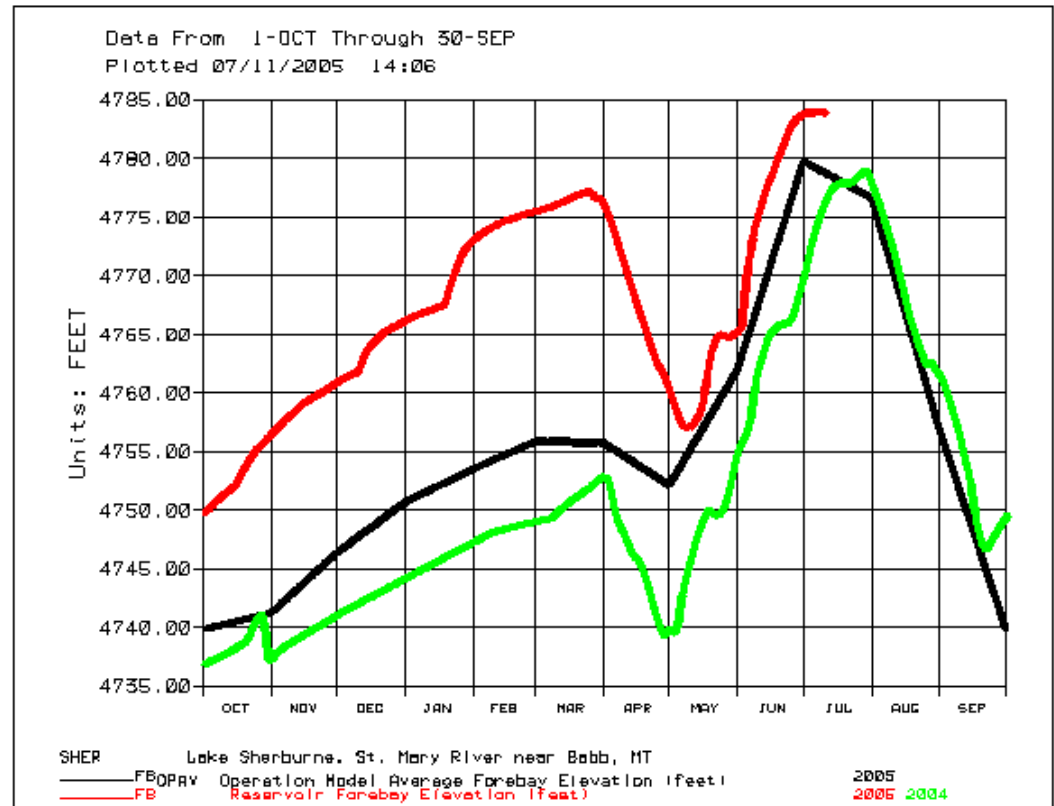
Mountain snowmelt is over

June inflow was 74% of average

Storage is at 115 percent of average

Releases from Sherburne Lake are currently being maintained at 235 cfs

With Fresno Reservoir currently full, diversions from the St. Mary River Basin to the Milk River Basin have been reduced from 600 cfs to the current rate of 490 cfs.



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Fresno Reservoir

Snowmelt is over

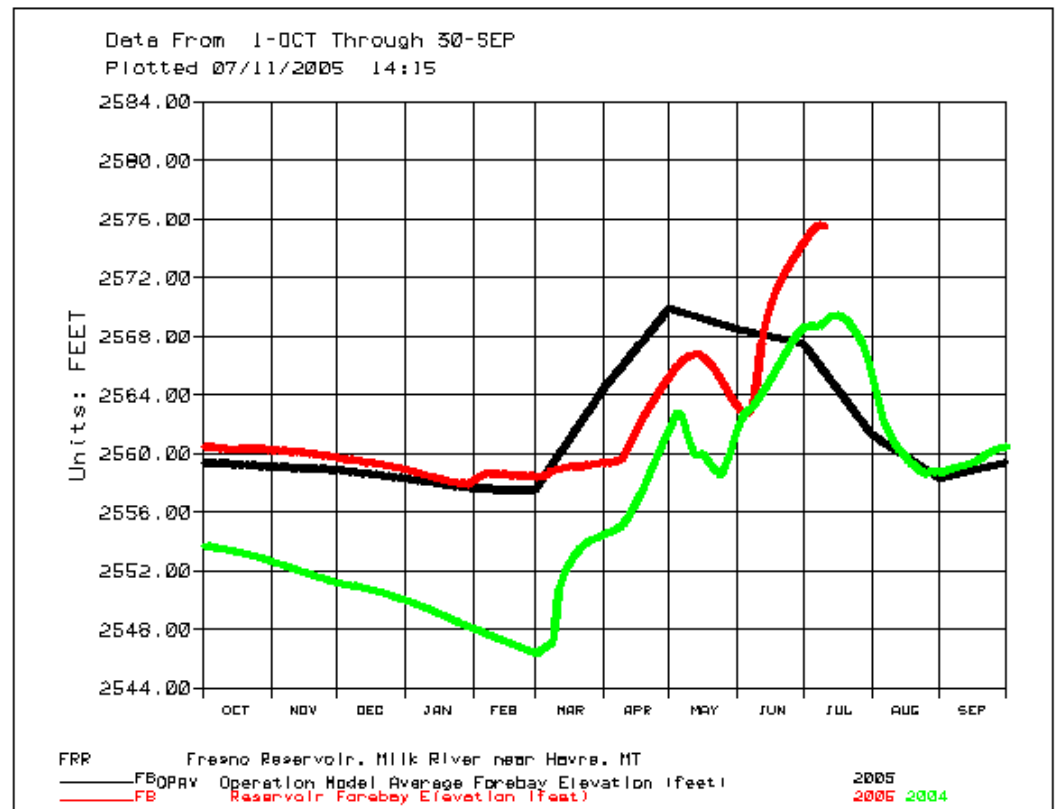
Currently diverting 600 cfs from St. Mary Basin to Milk River

Storage is at 171% of average and currently 0.5 feet above the top of the conservation pool

Spring and summer rains helped reduce downstream irrigation demands, allowing storage to slowly increase

If the drought conditions worsen, irrigators may experience minor water shortages this year

Recent rains have allowed irrigators to increase their earlier irrigation allotments from 1.3 af/ac to at least 2.0 af/ac



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Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

Mountain snowmelt is over

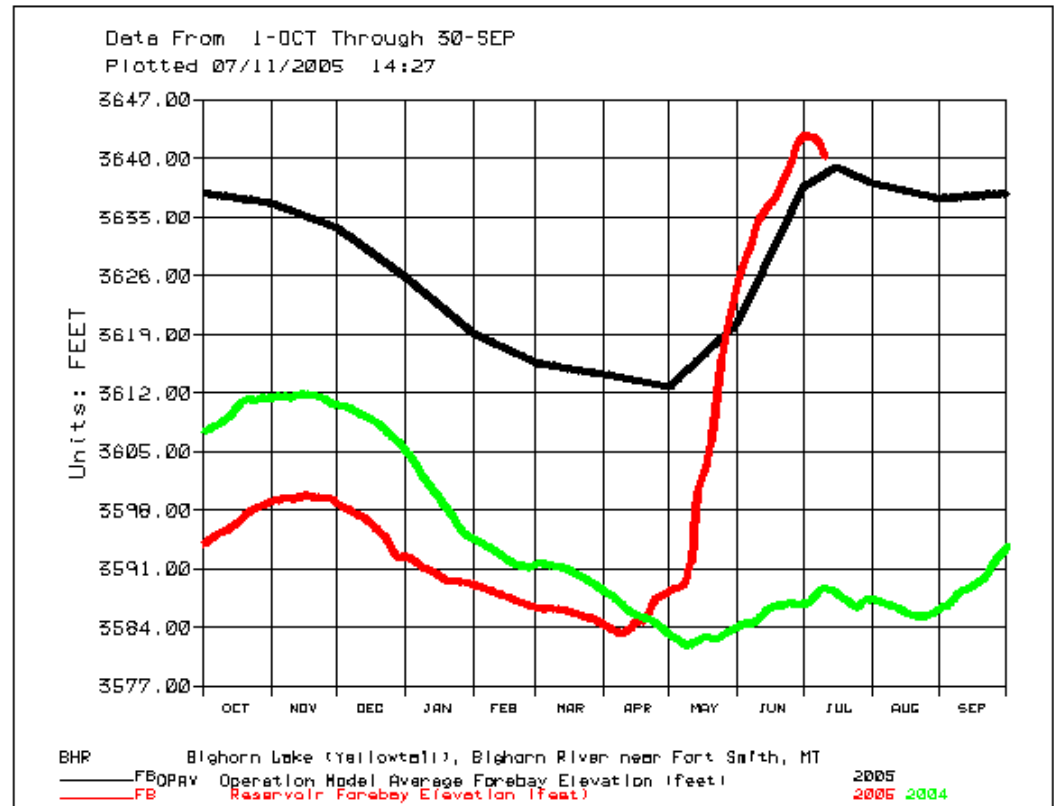
June inflow was 102% of average

Storage is at 102% of average and currently near the top of the conservation pool at elevation 3640

Releases to the Bighorn River peaked @ 6,850 cfs but are being gradually decreased to 3,600 cfs by later this week

Bighorn Lake reached the top of the conservation pool on June 26 and rose 2.8 feet into the exclusive flood pool

Plan to maintain release at 2,500 cfs for the remainder of the year



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Hungry Horse Reservoir

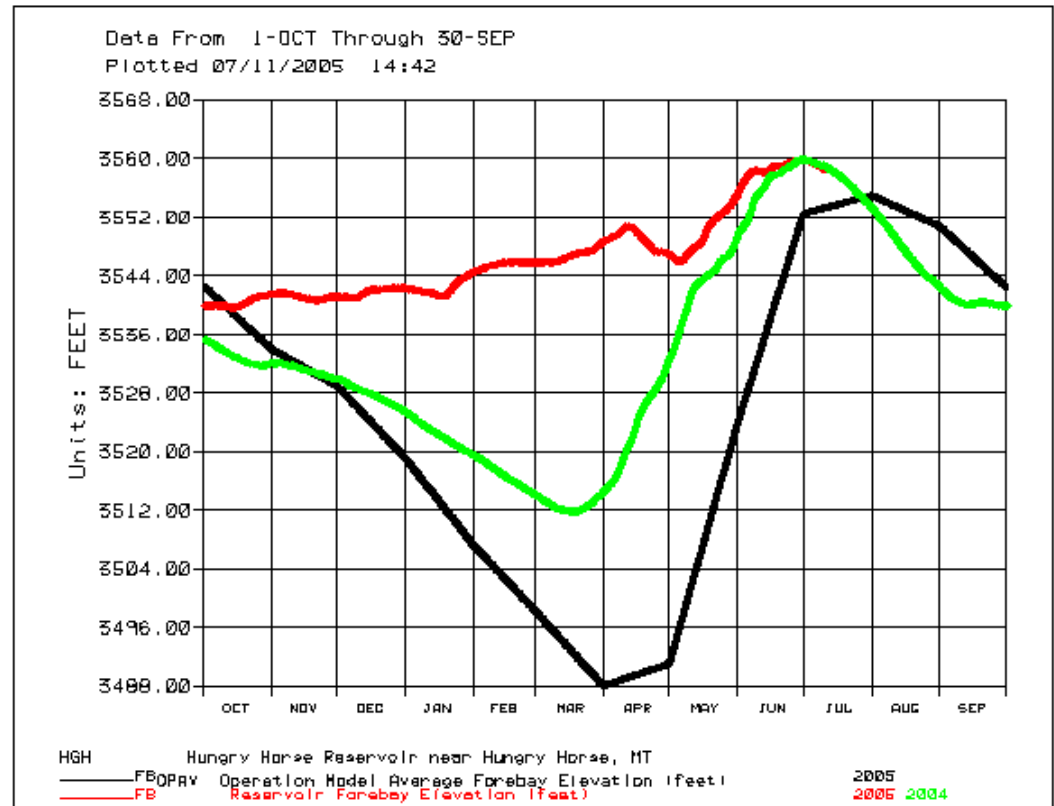
Mountain snowmelt is over

Streamflow into Hungry Horse improved during June

Storage is above average for this time of year

Currently releasing about 4,780 cfs to river

Storage in Hungry Horse filled to the top of the conservation pool and is now expected to slowly drop throughout the remainder of the year



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Reservoir Conditions for Reclamation Reservoirs

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
MONTANA AREA OFFICE
RESERVOIR OPERATIONS REPORT
10-Jul-2005
ALL CONTENTS IN ACRE-FEET

RESERVOIR NAME	NORMAL FULL POOL	TOTAL CAPACITY	AVERAGE CAPACITY	RESERVOIR CONDITIONS							WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK						
				ELEVATION (FEET)		CAPACITY (ACRE-FEET)		2005			MTN. SNOW WATER CONTENT (INCHES)				JUNE-JULY RUNOFF JUNE 1st FORECAST		
				2004	2005	2004	2005	% FULL	% OF AVG	% OF Last Yr	2004	2005	AVG	% OF AVG	(KAF)	AVG	% OF AVG
CLARK CANYON	5546.10	174,368	161,712	5507.68	5518.48	36,275	62,023	36	38	171	0.00	0.07	0.21	34	20	61	32
CANYON FERRY	3797.00	1,891,888	1,870,032	3785.94	3797.84	1,535,708	1,919,983	101	103	125	0.00	0.08	0.22	35	656	1,083	61
GIBSON	4724.00	96,477	78,265	4714.24	4706.97	84,035	75,170	78	96	89	0.00	0.08	0.00	0	132	267	50
PISHKUN	4370.00	46,670	40,734	4368.58	4363.24	44,574	37,017	79	91	83	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
WILLOW CREEK	4142.00	32,300	27,525	4142.01	4140.93	32,315	30,749	95	112	95	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
LAKE ELWELL	2993.00	967,319	961,464	2985.79	2985.52	845,379	841,056	87	87	99	0.00	0.10	0.10	97	72	258	28
SHERBURNE	4788.00	67,854	53,312	4776.24	4783.90	49,621	61,128	90	115	123	0.00	0.05	2.39	2	41	64	64
FRESNO	2575.00	92,880	55,690	2569.01	2575.50	67,299	95,350	103	171	142	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	24	45	53
NELSON	2221.60	78,951	58,143	2217.71	2217.70	63,177	63,139	80	109	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
BIGHORN LAKE	3640.00	1,070,029	1,047,921	3588.67	3640.19	684,749	1,072,429	100	102	157	0.00	0.04	0.22	19	666	1,014	66

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Summary of Operations of Reclamation Projects

Mountain snowpack has essentially melted out.

5th wettest June on record has helped reduce demands tremendously.

Reduced demands left more water in the streams, improving inflows to Reclamation reservoirs.

Streamflows improved considerably but many of the streams continue to remain well below normal.

June inflows to Reclamation projects varied from 36% of average @ Clark Canyon to 128% of average at Fresno.

All Reclamation reservoirs in Montana filled except for Clark Canyon, Lake Elwell, Lake Sherburne & Nelson Reservoirs.

With exception to Clark Canyon (38%) and Lake Elwell (87%), all reservoir storages at the end of June were at or above average.

Hopeful to maintain streamflows below Reclamation Projects at desirable levels for downstream river fisheries, except for the Marias (400 cfs) and Clark Canyon (25-35 cfs for winter).

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Photos of Bighorn Lake



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5-24-2005



7-12-2005



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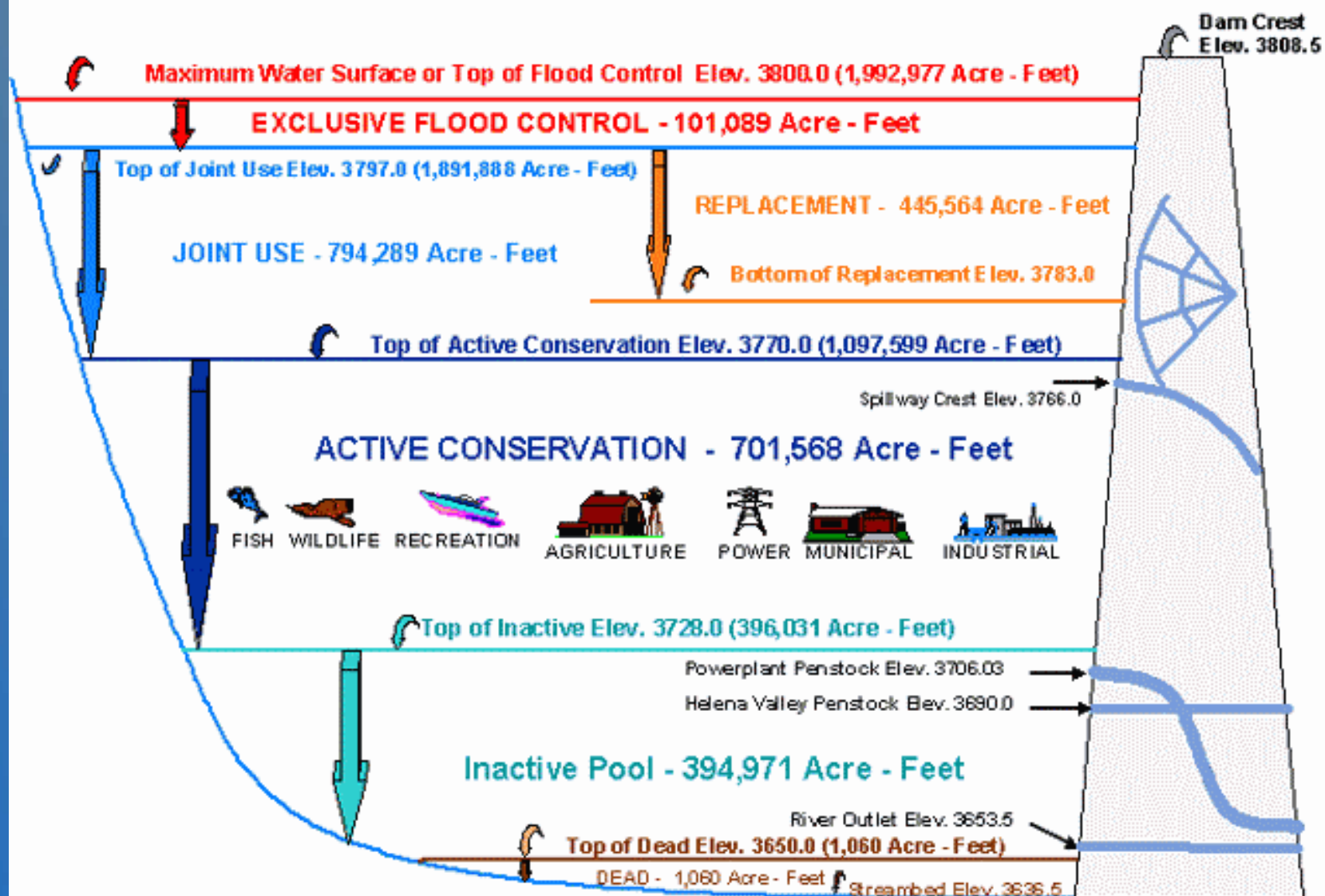


7-12-2005



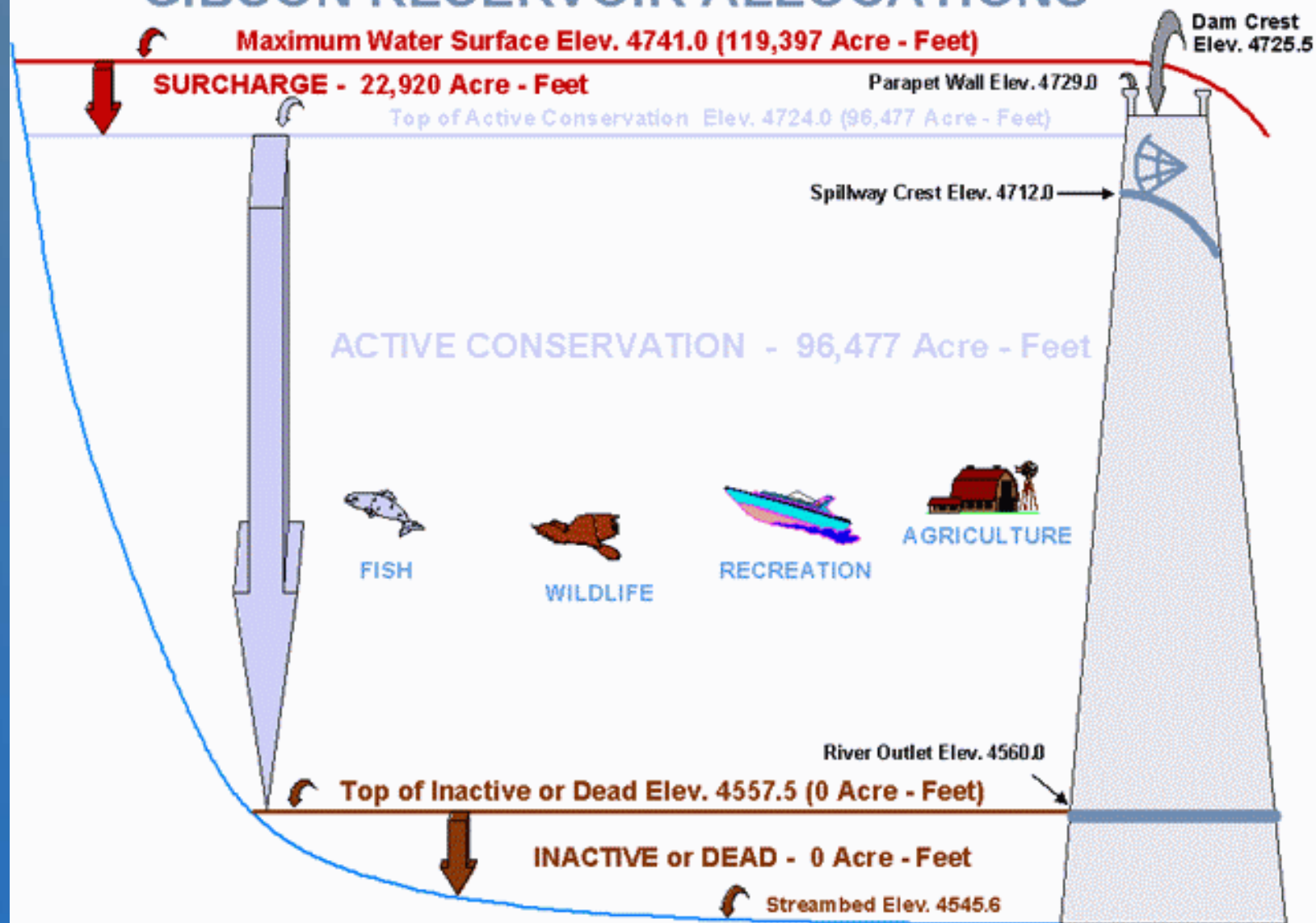
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CANYON FERRY RESERVOIR ALLOCATIONS



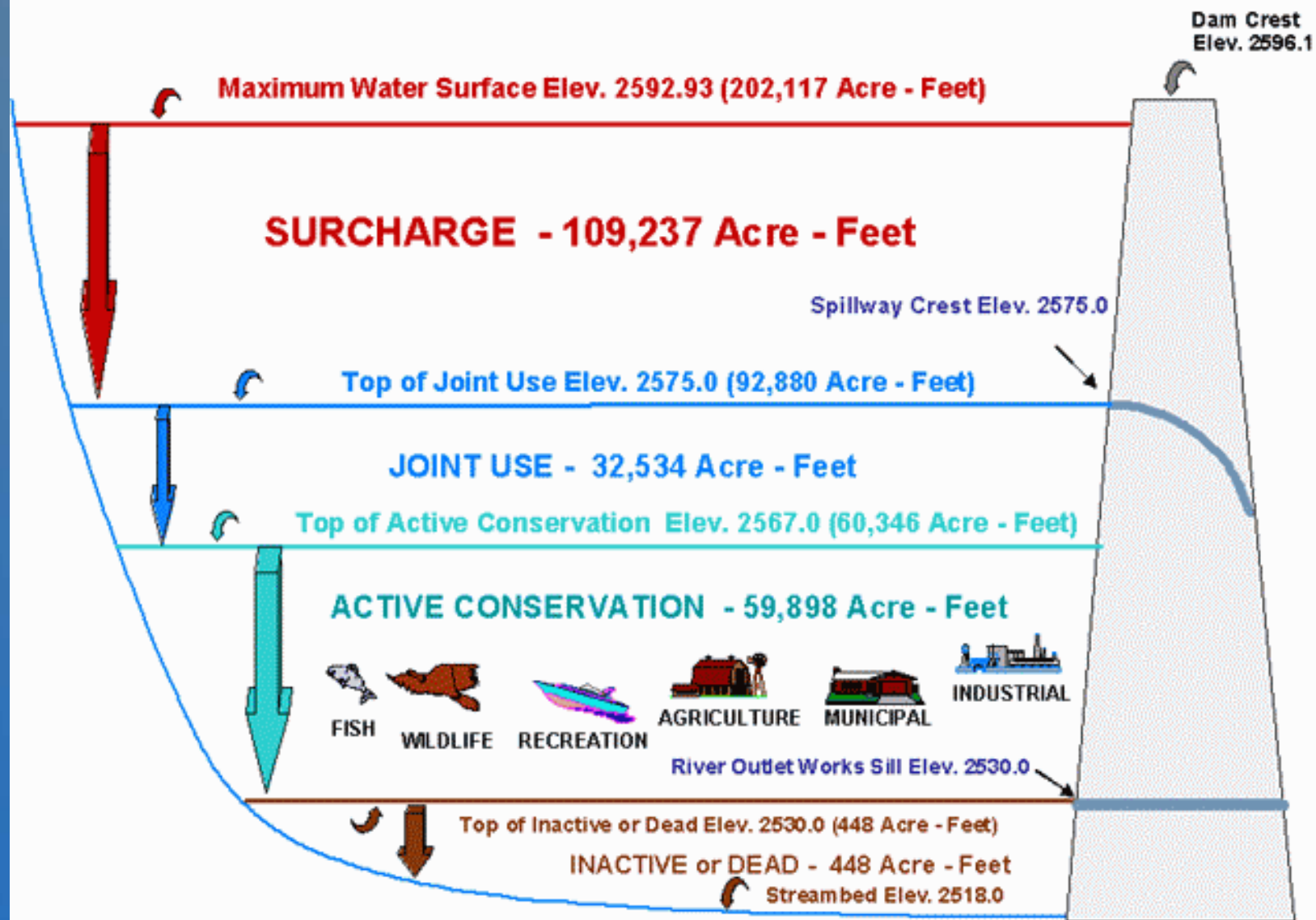
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GIBSON RESERVOIR ALLOCATIONS



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FRESNO RESERVOIR ALLOCATIONS



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